

Appn No. 09/575,131
Amdt. Dated May 20, 2004
Response to Office action of March 17, 2004

4

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for providing a mailing system, including the steps of:
 - receiving, through a computer system, a mail item from a sender;
 - printing the mail item in a document including coded data thereon, the coded data including an indication of the identity of the mail item and of the location of at least one reference point on the document;
 - receiving, in the computer system, indicating data from an optically imaging sensing device, the indicating data including information regarding the identity of the mail item and at least one action of the sensing device in relation to the document generated by the sensing device using optically reading at least some of the coded data printed on the document; and
 - generating a second mail item using said indicating data from the sensing device.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the indicating data includes information regarding an identity of the sensing device.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the second mail message is generated using the information regarding the identity of the sensing device to indicate the receiver as originator of the second mail item.
4. (Original) The method of claim 2 or 3, wherein the second mail item is directed to the sender.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the mail item is printed automatically on receipt by a terminal device including a printer.
6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the terminal device is at the premises of the receiver.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one action of the sensing

Appn No. 09/575,131
Amdt. Dated May 20, 2004
Response to Office action of March 17, 2004

5

device in relation to the registration form includes the formation of handwritten text and/or markings on the document.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, including printing the coded data so as to be at least substantially invisible in the visible spectrum.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the mail item is printed on the document at the same time as the coded data.

10. (Currently amended) A mailing system including:

a computer system having a sender terminal and a receiver terminal and adapted to transmit a mail item from the sender terminal to the receiver terminal;

a printer device in the receiver terminal adapted to print a mail item from the sender terminal in a document including coded data thereon, the coded data including an indication of the identity of the mail item and of the location of at least one reference point on the document; and

an optically imaging sensing device arranged to communicate to the computer system indicating data from the sensing device, the indicating data including information regarding the identity of the mail item and at least one action of the sensing device in relation to the document generated by the sensing device ~~using optically reading~~ at least some of the coded data printed on the document;

whereby the computer system can generate a second mail item using said indicating data from the sensing device.

11. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the sensing device includes an identification means that imparts a unique identity to the sensing device, and the indicating data includes information regarding the identity of the sensing device.

12. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein the second mail message is generated by the computer system using the information regarding the identity of the sensing device to indicate a receiver as originator of the second mail item.

13. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the receiver terminal is arranged to print the mail item automatically using the printer device on receipt.

Appn No. 09/575,131
Amdt. Dated May 20, 2004
Response to Office action of March 17, 2004

6

14. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the at least one action of the sensing device in relation to the registration form includes the formation of handwritten text and/or markings on the document.

15. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the coded data is printed so as to be at least substantially invisible in the visible spectrum.

16. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the mail item is printed on the document at the same time as the coded data.